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Dear Hal,

I don't get it. What happened to Garrison? If the newspaper accounts are at all to be believed (and I found no appreciable difference in coverage between the Omaha World-Herald and the NY Times) one can only conclude he failed, on the face of it, miserably. What happens now? I assume your own work will go on, of course, but the investigation as a whole seems (to me) rather muddled. Still, there is an enormous amount of material--evidence & allegation--I don't, apparently, understand...with the result that I'm not always sure how to effectively relate what I do know. Eh?

The course of the Sirhan trial (again, on the face of it) seems less confusing...but the refusal to consider possible conspiracy tends to undermine credibility. (If, for example, the defendant is really as "suggestible" as the defense contends...mightn't he be an easy recruit?, etc. etc.)

Thanks for the return of the miscellany & for the transcript of our interview. If you ever need any of the stuff again just say so and I'll send it along. I assume you still have use for the Thornley correspondence.

Kennedy's upset of Long a "point for our side" say Jean and I...

Your "Manchester/Machiavelli" remark intriguing. Perhaps we'll sometime have a chance to read your work on this? (Incidentally, did you know that Nicolo also wrote poetry? Hardly deathless stuff, but interesting in light of his other works. Not a well understood figure, more myth than man, even after all this time.) I do hope you can get back to writing and, hopefully, negotiate some reasonable publishing agreements. Incidentally, I don't think I would quite agree with your comment about your published work "showing" how fast you "rough it out." On the contrary, your stuff reads pretty well. I have said that I thought you raised your voice a bit stridently at times when your cause would be better served (in my judgement) by maintaining a more objective tone. I still think so, but I've now read a good deal more on this case than when I first offered this opinion: it is indeed asking a hell of a lot to suggest a need for greater "objectivity" in your writing style! After all the deceit, cynicism, treachery and double-dealing you've had to put up with during your investigations I can hardly in good conscience fault you on your writing style. I do not think, in fact, that I could in these circumstances summon as much restraint as you've generally shown. In any case, I believe the most important thing now is for you to get the material out where it can be examined, i.e. read.

Yes, I would have guessed that Kerry would repay you for your call by getting riled. You make him very defensive, no doubt, and he would resent that very much I think. And he probably cannot permit himself to think of you as other than dreaded enemy, poor fellow. Why don't you send me his address sometime; I'd like to ask about a few mutual N.O. acquaintances & maybe I could gather something of his general overall frame of mind at the same time.

Jeez! The Weather!! Yeah: really gross. April may well be "the cruelest month" but we'll nonetheless be glad when it arrives...

Cheers,

